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CAMPAIGN 1990: ABORTION STILL A HOT ISSUE.

With all the news media and insider attention being focused on TERM LIMITS, some CALPEEK sources are wondering whatever happened to the hot issue at the beginning of the year --- ABORTION. Well, it's alive and well and is still a very hot topic in a number of contests here in Calif., according to many CALPEEK sources...

...For example, this past week a group of PRO-LIFE supporters held a news conference in L.A. to announce their opposition to U.S. Sen. Pete Wilson, the GOP candidate for governor. Poor Pete -- he's getting it from both sides, because Demo Dianne Feinstein hit him for not being in Washington D.C., where he missed a key vote dealing with abortion. Wilson is PRO-CHOICE and there's even a PRO-CHOICE Wilson group of GOP women who are working hard on the senator's behalf...

...But it's not just this top race where abortion and choice are a hot topic. It is a key issue in the race between Demo incumbent Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy (PRO-CHOICE) and his GOP rival, State Sen. Marian Bergeson, who is a PRO-LIFE advocate. Why is choice such an important issue in this contest? Gender. Uninformed PRO-CHOICE voters may think that because she is a woman, Bergeson is automatically PRO-CHOICE. And don't say this confusion can't happen. Just ask Bergeson's PRO-CHOICE rival in the GOP primary, State Sen. John Seymour of Anaheim...

...The issue also might be a key factor in the race for AG between S.F. DA Arlo Smith, who is PRO-CHOICE, and former U.S. Rep. Dan Lungren, who is PRO-LIFE. The choice issue doesn't appear to be a major factor in the other Statewide election campaigns...

...At the legislative level, CHOICE divides freshman PRO-LIFE Republican Assemblyman

Curt Pringle of Garden Grove from his Demo rival in the 72nd A.D., Tom Umberg. Pringle is not only a target of Demo Speaker Willie Brown, but also has been targeted by both the Nat'l and Calif. Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL & CARAL). In fact, Orange County is a key battleground on the issue of choice. The bi-partisan Orange County Pro-Choice organization is going all out for both Umberg and for incumbent Orange Co. Bd. of Supes member Harriett Weider in her battle with Westminster Councilwoman Joy Neugebauer, who is PRO-LIFE. Wieder, a Republican, is the only PRO-CHOICE member of the Board of Supes...

...Abortion/choice is also a hot topic in the 34th S.D. race between incumbent Demo State Sen. Ruben Ayala and his GOP rival, Assemblyman Chuck Bader of Ontario. Both men claim to be PRO-LIFE advocates, but Bader has accused Ayala of flip-flopping on the choice issue in his public statements and there is evidence that this charge is hurting Ayala. The choice issue could also be a factor in the 7th A.D. contest between incumbent Demo Assemblyman Norm Waters, who is PRO-CHOICE, and his hardline PRO-LIFE Republican rival, David Knowles...

...FYI: keep your eyes open for INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES by both sides in this running battle over choice. For example, CALPEEK sources confirm that CARAL will send out more than 400,000 targeted mailings between now and Nov. 6. Stay tuned...

IN CALPEEK's STRANGER THAN FICTION FILE...

Guess who got amushed in Long Beach? S.F. DA Arlo Smith comes out with the endorsement of the Long Beach Press Telegram over former native Long Beach son Dan Lungren. Both men are vying for Calif. AG. Not too bad, Arlo. Stay tuned...

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CAMPAIGN 1990: EDITORIALS ON INITIATIVES.

Editor's note: Here is Part V of our continuing coverage of key Statewide ballot propositions facing voters this November. This week CALPEEK reports on the editorial positions of 7 major daily newspapers in Calif. The papers include the San Diego Union, L.A. Times, L.A. Daily News, San Jose Mercury, Sacramento Bee, San Bernardino Sun Telegram and Oakland Tribune. (The two S.F. dailies had not yet released editorials on the State measures)...

...CALPEEK has broken the ballot measures down into 6 groups: alcohol taxes, term limits, the Jarvis/Gann package, environment & counter measures, and crime...

• **Alcohol Taxes** - There are 2 measures: #126 (minor tax increase) and #134 (major tax increase).

	#126	#134
San Diego Union	NO	NO
L.A. Times	NO	NO
San Jose Mercury	YES	NO
Daily News	YES	NO
Sun Telegram	NO	YES
Oakland Tribune	YES	NO

• **Term Limits** - There are 2 measures on the ballot: Pete Schabarum's #140 and the less restrictive #131 w/public funding...

	#140	#131
San Diego Union	NO	NO
Sacramento Bee	NO	NO
Daily News	YES	NO
Sun Telegram	NO	NO
Oakland Tribune	NO	YES

• **The Jarvis-Gann Package** - Here we have #136 (Taxpayers' Right to Vote) and #137 (The Initiative to Save the Initiative)...

	#136	#137
San Diego Union	NO	NO
L.A. Times	NO	NO
Sacramento Bee	NO	NO
San Jose Mercury	NO	NO
Daily News	NO	YES
Sun Telegram	NO	NO
Oakland Tribune	NO	NO

• **Environment** - There is #128 (Big Green); #130 (Forest Forever); and #132 (Gillnets):

	#128	#130	#132
San Diego Union	NO	NO	NO
L.A. Times		YES	NO
Sacramento Bee	NO		
Daily News	NO	NO	NO
Sun Telegram	NO	YES	YES
Oakland Tribune	NO	YES	NO

• **Environment/Counter Measures** - Here we have #135 (Food safety-CAREFUL) and #138 (Timber industry's response to #130):

	#135	#138
San Diego Union	NO	NO
L.A. Times		NO
Sacramento Bee	NO	
Daily News		NO
Sun Telegram	NO	NO
Oakland Tribune	NO	NO

• **Crime** - In this category there are 3 measures: VdK's #129; Leo McCarthy's 1/2 cent sales tax hike for crime #133; and #139, the convict labor measure...

	#129	#133	#139
San Diego Union	NO	NO	YES
L.A. Times	NO	YES	NO
Sacramento Bee	NO	NO	YES
Daily News	NO	NO	YES
Sun Telegram	NO		NO
Oakland Tribune	NO	NO	YES

...The blank spots indicate the publication has not as yet made an endorsement...

CAMPAIGN 1990: UPDATE ON TERM LIMITS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on Props. #131 and #140, the two measures dealing with TERM LIMITS...

• The latest numbers from the CA Poll continue to show both #131 and #140 with hefty leads. #131 had 66% YES to 18% NO, while #140 showed 69% YES and 19% NO...

• CALPEEK sources confirm that Berman & D'Agostino Campaigns have forked over about \$4-5 million to TV stations for NO on #131/#140 ads, which will begin airing Jan. 22nd. It's still not known what the message will be, but one source with the YES on #131 campaign thinks the strategy is to paint BOTH measures with the public funding of elections brush --- and pray...

• In the tight battle in the 72nd A.D.

in Orange Co., the Demo campaign of Tom U-berg decided to let their candidate endorse the less restrictive #131 term limits measure. Pressure from incumbent GOP Assemblyman Curt Pringle, who backs #140...

- Lewis Uhler, who along with L.A. Co. Sup. Pete Schabarum, are co-chairs of #140, was on the road this past week with news conferences and rallies across the State...

- Why have SAFE Demo incumbents Phil Isenberg and Lloyd Connelly made substantial TV buys in Sacto??? Words is that these guys aren't taking any chances with this anti-incumbency mood of the voters, which seems to cut across party lines. So GOP Assemblyman Tim Leslie had better wake up or Demo Joe Buonaiuto could win...

- GOP controller candidate Matt Fong becomes the 2nd major Statewide candidate to endorse #140. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 1990: THE NEXT MAYOR OF OAKLAND.

On June 4th, the day before the primary, many CALPEEK sources thought Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson was almost a sure bet to win a runoff spot on the Nov. 6 ballot. But surprise, surprise. After the votes were counted on June 5, Wilson finished 3rd behind Assemblyman Elihu Harris (D-Oakland) and Councilman Wilson Riles Jr. With about 15 days to go before the runoff, many CALPEEK sources think Harris has a decided edge over Riles, although few are willing to go out on a limb and predict a win for Harris at this early date. Too much can happen between now and election day...

...Does Harris have a problem? Perhaps. On Oct. 4, Sacto BEE political columnist Dan Walters zeroed in on Harris and his chummy relationship with Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. Turns out that Harris' wife, attorney Kathy Neal, was appointed by Brown to a \$90,000 full-time job with the State Integrated Waste Mgt. Board. But there's more. Neal also won a contract to monitor the actions of the State Bar (\$100,000 per year). It's supposed to be full-time too. Not too bad...

...The key question for Riles is whether he has the warchest necessary to get the word out about this hanky panky. If he comes up with the bucks, this would be the kind of issue that might influence voters. Riles

has been trying to nail Harris as the outsider from Sacto, who just moved to Oakland last year from the city of Alameda...

...Riles also has won the endorsement of outgoing Mayor Wilson, but it's not known how much political clout Wilson carries these days. Probably not as much as Riles would hope for, but more than Harris and his supporters claim. The Oakland Tribune endorsed Harris in the primary and they are issuing another endorsement fairly soon...

CAMPAIGN 1990: FALL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Editor's note: Here is a brief update on key local ballot measures that will face voters Nov. 6th...

- LOVE ME OR LEAVE ME - Voters in San Francisco will again face the question of DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS, Measure K on the local ballot. As CALPEEK readers may recall, the Bd. of Supes passed a DPA in 1989, only to have it removed from the books a year ago in a close vote on Measure S. Most members of the Bd. of Supes are in favor, as is the S.F. Examiner. The only visible opposition comes from Demo State senate candidate Patrick Fitzgerald, and Bd. of Supes candidate Jim Robinson. While most think #K should win, past history isn't being overlooked. What is a DPA? It's much more than going steady, but less than a formal marriage...

- JAILHOUSE ROCK - Measure A on the L.A. County ballot calls for a 1/2 cent sales tax hike to pay for 24,000 new jail cells. Because of overcrowding and a court order forcing Sheriff Sherman Block to reduce the inmate population, some 10,000 prisoners are freed each month. The Wessell Co. has been hired to run the campaign. Radio spots should start airing soon. The YES on A campaign has also purchased space on two key slates...

- ROAD TO UTOPIA - Measure C in L.A. Co. calls for yet another 1/2 cent hike in the sales tax for transportation purposes. Like Measure M in Orange Co. and a similar plan in Ventura Co., backers of all these measures are watching developments in Washington D.C. very closely. A big tax package by congress to reduce the deficit could have a NEGATIVE impact on these and other

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measures calling for higher taxes. Back to the L.A. plan. The hike in sale tax would provide more light rail and bus service, local maintenance, "smart" streets(synchronized signals) and more transit police. Measure C is being run by Winner, Wagner & Mandabach, with Strooza, Ziegaus & Metzger handling the coalition building and news media relations...

- **THE APARTMENT** - In Santa Monica the key election issue for the last decade has been RENT CONTROL. But with other very controversial items on a crowded local ballot, there are some who think that perhaps rent control won't be the dominate issue Nov. 6. Nevertheless, there are TWO competing plans facing voters: Measure U and Measure W. Both deal with VACANCY DECONTROL. #U was placed on the ballot by landlords. Simply stated, when a unit becomes voluntarily vacated, the new rent can be whatever the market allows. #W sets specific rate increases once an apartment is vacated. But there are pre-conditions for landlords. They must sign a statement saying they will NOT envoke the Ellis Act for 3 years and there must be certain improvements to a vacated unit. It is difficult to say which one of these measures will win. Consultant George Young is handling YES on U, while Skelton, Grover & Assoc. are doing YES on W. Stay tuned...

CCTA & CENTURY CABLE TO DISTRIBUTE DEBATES.

A debate featuring the various environmental propositions on the Nov. 6 ballot, as well as a recent debate between State Tres. Tom Hayes and his Demo challenger, Kathleen Brown, will be distributed to more than 400 cable TV systems in Calif. before the Nov. 6 election by the CA Cable TV Assn. The debates, as well as profile interviews with Pete Wilson and Dianne Feinstein, were conducted by Century Cable TV of L.A., with moderator Bill Rosendahl. Other political debates and profiles done at Century's HQ studio are being sent to various cable outlets in So. Calif. Perhaps the regular TV stations should request these debates and interviews because aside from 60-second sound/film bites, they just ain't cutting it in terms getting solid info to voters. Question: how come KNBC-TV (Channel 4 in L.A.) wouldn't let Century Cable replay the first Wilson/Feinstein debate? CALPEEK saw a replay on C-SPAN. What's the deal???

CAMPAIGN 1990: THE FLORES CREDIBILITY GAP.

In her battle with GOP rival Joan Flores, the councilwoman from L.A., Democrat March Fong Eu has to be considered one of the luckiest incumbents around. For 3 weeks, Flores has been pounding Secretary of State Eu with one of the best negative TV hits in recent memory (by consultant Ray McNally), focusing on Eu's 1986 campaign reporting violations. It's solid stuff and the latest Calif. Poll shows Flores picking up 9 pts. from the August survey...

...HOWEVER, the credibility of this great 30-second TV spot has been completely DESTROYED by an unforgivable MISTAKE by the person(s) who compiled Flores' own campaign report. The 1974 law requires that all TV and radio buys be itemized by individual stations, and not filed in a lump sum, as was done in the most recent Flores report. It's the same mistake made by Eu in 1986...

...Will Eu go negative? NO says campaign consultant Leo McElroy, who is running the Eu reelection campaign, but there will be TV spots featuring the Secretary of State. The latest CA Poll numbers show Eu at 54% (up 2 pts.) and Flores at 26%, with 20% undecided. Eu looks solid. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ACCOUNTS AND PERSONNEL NOTES.

Editor's note: Here's a brief update on some new personnel developments:

- Paul Skrabut Jr. has been promoted to Sr. VP for govt. relations at Palumbo & Cerrell, Inc., in Washington D.C...
- Erika L. Anderson and Debra A. Barnes have joined S.F.-based Solem & Associates. Anderson is a former sr. researcher at Pacific Bell, while Barnes was a pr/community affairs executive at several non-profit hospitals in the Bay area...
- Fernando Del Rio is the new director of SCAG's public communications department. Del Rio was perhaps best known as VP of Public Affairs at KHJ-TV (now KCAL-TV)...
- James Cathcart is the new VP of govt. and corporate relations for The Doctors' Co., HQed in Napa, Calif...

